



401 N. Morton, Ste. 250 **Bloomington IN 47404**

Jet Ynvolved:

GET INVOLVED ... VOLUNTEER!

City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department volunteers provide valuable services to the community by assisting in many events and programs in a variety of ways. Volunteers can participate on a regular basis or on occasion as desired. There are many opportunities to choose from and an assortment of times and days available.

Volunteer opportunities exist in the following areas:

- Adult sports
- Class instructors
- Clerical services
- Community events
- Cultural arts
- Environmental efforts
- Farmers' Market
- Inclusion programs
- Park projects

• Youth sports

• Youth programs

- Research/surveys
- Senior citizen programs
- Trail maintenance

If you would like to be a volunteer with the City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department contact Kim Ecenbarger at (812) 349-3739 or ecenbark@bloomington.in.gov.

City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department • Volunteer Opportunities 401 N. Morton, Ste. 250 • Bloomington IN 47404

Make friends • Earn service learning credits Gain experience • Have fun

EVENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

TRAINING: Volunteers will be trained at the beginning of their shifts.

Community Gardening

Schedule a Day. March-October

Grow closer to local food! Community Gardening grows both plants and community. Since 1984, the Parks and Recreation Department has offered community gardening opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds. A favorite venue of volunteer groups, the gardens benefit from a number of service projects throughout the gardening season.

Volunteers assist the staff in maintaining paths, turning compost, and weeding, as well as creating and maintaining ornamental,

wildlife, and demonstration plantings

Schedule your group for a three- to four-hour shift. **Program Time:**

Willie Streeter or Butler Park Gardens Location:

Age of Volunteers: 12 yrs. and up Number of Volunteers: Groups of 5–25

Volunteer to Maintain our Natural Spaces

Schedule a Day, March-November

Help maintain and restore some of Bloomington's most scenic natural areas. Many group volunteer projects are available in parks throughout the Bloomington community.

Staff will work with your group or organization to formulate a

work plan. Duties may include applying wood chips or gravel to paths, removing invasive plant species, trimming obstructive

vegetation, or re-routing trails. **Program Time:** Schedule your group for a three- to four-hour shift.

Leonard Springs Nature Park Trail, Griffy Lake Nature Preserve Trail, Wapehani Mountain Bike Trail, Winslow Woods Trail,

Twin Lakes Trail, and the Bloomington Rail Trail

Age of Volunteers: 12 yrs. and up Number of Volunteers: Groups of 5-25

Bryan Park Creek Maintenance Days Wednesdays, May 7, June 4, July 2, August 6, September 3, October 1

The Parks and Recreation Department has earned Community Wildlife Habitat certification from the National Wildlife Federation. The Bryan Park Creek naturalized area played a key role in certification and requires periodic maintenance to control invasive plant species and ensure native plant success

Duties: Volunteers assist with monthly upkeep of this natural area along

beautiful Bryan Park Creek. Help maintain native plants by cutting back overgrown brush, removing invasive plants, and collecting

native plant seeds.

Program Time:

Bryan Park, 1100 S. Woodlawn Ave.—Woodlawn Shelter Location: 12 yrs. and up (Children under age 12 yrs. must be accompanied Age of Volunteers:

by an adult.)

Number of Volunteers: 5–30

May 13-15 and May 20-22 Learn to Ride

Children will spend the entire summer cruising on their bicycles after this Bloomington Bikes Week program. Participants learn how to confidently and safely ride their bikes through individual instruction, and also learn about bike maintenance, road safety, and proper bike and helmet fittings.

Duties:

Proper instruction is an important aspect of bicycle riding Volunteers collaborate with Park staff to teach children riding etiquette and techniques that will keep them safe as they ride

their bikes.

4-5:30 p.m. **Program Time:**

Bryan Park Pool, 1100 S. Woodlawn Ave.—parking lot Location:

Age of Volunteers: 16 yrs. and up Number of Volunteers: 4–6 per day

Other: Sign up for one or both sessions of Learn to Ride. Volunteers will

do a lot of running. Class will be rescheduled in case of inclement

50+ Expo 2014-**Around the World**

Program Time:

Location:

Tuesday, May 13/Event Setup Wednesday, May 14/Event

The 50+ Expo features free health screenings, plus an expo hall filled with exhibitors with information about products and services for seniors and their families.

Volunteers may decorate, direct exhibitors **Duties:**

to their spaces, greet participants, distribute 50+ Expo information, collect participant

feedback, and tear down the event. Tuesday: 3-6 p.m. (10-12 volunteers)/Event setup

Wednesday:

Shift #1, 7–10 a.m. (5–7 volunteers)/Exhibit assistants Shift #2, 9-11:30 a.m. (2 volunteers)/Welcome table Shift #3, 11 a.m.–2 p.m. (2 volunteers)/Evaluations Shift #4, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (2 volunteers)/Welcome table

Shift #5, 2–4 p.m. (10 volunteers)/Event teardown Twin Lakes Recreation Center, 1700 W. Bloomfield Rd.

Age of Volunteers: 16 yrs. and up

Ferguson Dog Park **Cleanup Days**

Wednesdays, May 14, June 11, July 9, August 13, September 10, October 8

Bloomington Parks and Recreation opened Ferguson Dog Park, a park specifically for dogs and their owners, in fall 2012. Our goal is to offer a safe and clean green space for dogs and their owners. Periodic maintenance and upkeep is needed to ensure our four-legged and two-legged friends enjoy their visit.

Duties: Do-good animal owners and animal lovers needed to assist with monthly upkeep of this designated dog space at the Ferguson Dog

Park. Help maintain play areas by clipping, clearing, and cleaning in celebration of our canine play area.

Program Time: Ferguson Dog Park, 4300 N. Stone Mill Rd. Location:

Age of Volunteers: 12 yrs. and up (Children under age 12 yrs. must be accompanied

by an adult.) Number of Volunteers: 8 per day

Bike Rodeo

Saturday, May 31

of wearing bike helmets. Participants can bike through an obstacle course, enjoy snacks, and learn something new! Helmets provided for riders who need them. Sponsored by: Indiana University Health and SAFE Routes to School. If you value child safety, the Bike Rodeo provides a great

A free, family event to entertain and educate children on cycling safety and the importance

Duties:

opportunity to get involved. Volunteers assist with the safety challenge course, fit bike helmets, and distribute snacks and door prizes.

9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Program Time: Parking lot on Rogers and 10th Streets (by the B-Line Trail) Location:

Age of Volunteers: 18 yrs, and up

Number of Volunteers: 6–8

Active Living Coalition Health Fair Saturday, May 31

Get up, get out, and get active at the Active Living Coalition's annual Health Fair! Patrons can visit more than 20 health and wellness-related booths, watch exercise demonstrations, take home some special giveaways, and gather all the info they need to live a healthy lifestyle!

Duties: Support health and wellness efforts in our community. Early morning volunteers set up the event and assist exhibitors.

Late morning volunteers distribute water, welcome returning participants, and deconstruct the route.

Program Time: Shift #1, 7-10 a.m./Shift #2, 10 a.m.-1 p.m Location: Showers Plaza, 401 N. Morton St.

Age of Volunteers: 16 yrs and up Number of Volunteers: 4–6 per shift

National Trails Day 2014

Saturday, June 7

COALITION

Participate in the American Hiking Society's 22nd Anniversary of National Trails Day! Hiking trails allow us to keep in touch with the natural world while exercising and relieving stress. A wide variety of recreation, fitness, and transportation goals can be achieved with a good trail system.

Duties: Volunteers are needed to help improve trails at Griffy Lake

Nature Preserve **Program Time:** 9 a.m.–noon

Location: Griffy Lake Nature Preserve, 3300 N. Headley Rd.

Age of Volunteers: 14 yrs. and up (Children under 16 yrs. must be accompanied by

Number of Volunteers: 25



Touch a Truck

Duties:

Wednesday, June 11 Rain date: Thursday, June 12

Children get up close and personal with fire trucks, ambulances, buses, bucket trucks, and more. They explore the inner workings or the outside gadgets of the big rigs they have always been curious about!

Come experience it firsthand. Volunteers assist with event setup, monitor stations, and distribute refreshments and snacks to our

Do you enjoy seeing amazement on the faces of small children?

Program Time: Shift #1, 8 a.m.-12:15 p.m./Shift #2, noon-3 p.m

Twin Lakes Sports Park, 2350 W. Bloomfield Rd.—parking lot Location:

Age of Volunteers: 16 vrs. and up Number of Volunteers: 5 per shift

Backyard Beach Party

Wednesday, June 18 Thursday, July 17

Banneker's backyard becomes the neighborhood super sunny beach! Grab the sunscreen and watch as preschoolers make a castle in the sand, keep cool in the sprinkler, and have fun with beach toys.

Volunteers help event staff with setup and hands-on activities to **Duties:**

help bring the beach to Banneker!

Program Time: 9 a.m.-noon

Banneker Community Center, 930 W. Seventh St.

Age of Volunteers: 14 yrs. and up

Number of Volunteers: 2

Taste of Bloomington

Saturday, June 21

The Taste of Bloomington is a yearly attraction that brings local restaurants all to one location—Showers Common. The day is filled with great food, great friends, and great fun! Come be a part of it. Volunteers receive a FREE ticket to the Taste of Bloomington to enjoy before or after their shift.

Duties: Volunteers assist at the youth activities area. Expect a lot of hands-on interaction with children monitoring the bounce house,

leading arts and crafts, and doing face painting.

3:30-8 p.m. Program Time:

Showers Common, Eighth and Morton Streets Location:

Age of Volunteers: 18 yrs. and up

Number of Volunteers: 6–8

Bug Fest Saturday, June 28

Visitors learn all about amazing insects at Bloomington's second annual Bug Fest! Go on an insect safari, handle cool insects, make a craft, and participate in a mealworm race or cricket-spitting contest. The day includes speakers and information booths on a variety of buggy topics

Duties:

Volunteers engage children in bug exploration. Discuss various types of bugs, lead a bug activity, or work with our speaker series. Share your interest in outdoor education with children. It inspires!

Program Time: Shift #1, 9 a.m.-1 p.m./Shift #2, 12:45-3:45 p.m. Hilltop Garden and Nature Center, 2367 E. 10th St. Location:

Age of Volunteers: 18 yrs. and up Number of Volunteers: 7–8 per shift

Fourth of July Parade

Friday, July 4

Everybody loves a PARADE! This year's Fourth of July Parade theme is "Explore Bloomington!" People with lawn chairs in hand head downtown to celebrate while waving their flags proudly! The Parade is brought to the community by Bloomington Parks and Recreation and Downtown Bloomington, Inc., and is sponsored by the American Legion Burton Woolery Post 18.

Duties:

Volunteers help with road closures and organizing entries in specified holding area.

7:30 a.m.–noon

Program Time:

Meet at the Sample Gates, Indiana and Kirkwood Avenues Location: Age of Volunteers: 18 yrs. and up

Number of Volunteers: 2

Bryan Park Itsy Bitsy Kids Triathlon Saturday, July 12

Encourage children ages 5–10 yrs. to get active with this fun, non-competitive event! The triathlon includes a 100-meter swim in Bryan Park Pool, 1.1-mile cycle, and .6-mile run. Every child who takes part is a winner!

Promote active living for all ages. Volunteers prepare course,

direct traffic during the bike and run legs, and cheer on every

participant. 8-10 a.m.

Program Time: Bryan Park Pool, 1100 S. Woodlawn Ave.—parking lot

Age of Volunteers: 18 yrs. and up Number of Volunteers: 15

Messy Mania

Tuesday, July 15

Kids get crazy with their hands when we let them experiment with all kinds of messy mediums, with no worries about creating chaos in the house! These hands-on activities will delight every youngster who loves to squish, splatter, and fling! We take care of the prep time and clean up, while children experience a morning of head-to-toe, ooey gooey good times!

Have oney gooey fun helping kids make oney gooey projects! Volunteers assist with preparation, hands-on activities, and don't

forget the cleanup that follows

Shift #1, 8-11 a.m./Shift #2, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. **Program Time:** Location: RCA Community Park, 1400 W. RCA Park Dr.

Age of Volunteers: 14 vrs. and up Number of Volunteers: 12 per shift

Other: Wear clothing you don't mind getting messy.

Tomato Tasting

Saturday, August 2

Experience the spectrum of heirloom tomatoes the Bloomington Community Farmers' Market has to offer. Yellow, orange, purple, green—patrons are able to taste a kaleidoscope of colors and expand their horizons beyond the common red tomato!

Take part in one of the glories of summer as you distribute samples of different tomatoes.

Program Time: 7:30 a.m.–noon

Showers Plaza, 401 N. Morton St. Location:

Age of Volunteers: 16 yrs. and up Number of Volunteers: 12

Drool in the Pool

Wednesday, August 13 Thursday, August 14

Mills Pool is closed for humans, but is open for two more days of swimming for our canine friends. The first evening features dog paddling fun and a jumping contest. The second evening is filled with a variety of entertaining contests, giveaways, and more swimming. Various pet-related businesses and organizations will be on hand during the second night only. In celebration of the 10th anniversary, 10 fabulous prizes for your furry friends will be given away during breaks in the event on each night. Dog guards are on duty to supervise any dogs gone wild but are not expected to get into the pool.

Don't let the dog days of summer get you down. Assist with doggie giveaways and contests and become a dog lifeguard! Help give our four-legged friends two days to relax at the pool!

Program Time: 4:30-8:30 p.m.

Location: Mills Pool, 1100 W. 14th St.

Age of Volunteers: 16 yrs. and up Number of Volunteers: 5 per evening

Junk in the Trunk

Saturday, August 23

Junk

The Junk in the Trunk community rummage sale is recycling and treasure hunting all at the same time! There is plenty of room outside the Frank Southern Ice Arena for many different vendors to set up and sell unwanted furniture, books, clothing, toys, household goods, and more. **Duties:**

Be where the treasures are. Volunteers assist staff in setup and running the event. There also will be time to do your own treasure hunting.

Shift #1, 6:30-10 a.m./Shift #2, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Program Time: Location: Frank Southern Ice Arena, 2100 S. Henderson St

Age of Volunteers: 16 yrs. and up Number of Volunteers: 3 per shift

Friday, August 29

Come out and PLAY! Bloomington has once again been named a Playful City USA by KaBOOM!, and we intend to celebrate! We'll have games, a bounce house, and playful activities for kids of all ages. The evening ends with the showing of the family-friendly movie "Up" on the big screen!

Recall your childhood playing in the park. Assist with various Duties: outdoor activities that promote healthy, active lifestyles.

Program Time: 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Bryan Park, 1001 S. Henderson St. Location: Age of Volunteers: 16 vrs. and up

Number of Volunteers: 3

ONGOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

TRAINING: Volunteers are required to attend a volunteer orientation prior to program.

Commit to Health Nutrition Program May 16-July 25

The Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department has been awarded a nutrition curriculum grant from National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) and the Walmart Foundation. The funds will allow the Department to increase healthy meals served to children, provide evidence-based nutrition literacy to children, and implement nutrition and physical activity standards at the Banneker Community Center, Boys and Girls Club, and Girls Inc.

Deliver OrganWise Guys, an evidence-based nutrition curriculum, Duties: to children (K-6) for eight weeks. Volunteers may also lead

physical activity lessons. M, 11 a.m.-noon/training/all

Program Times: M, 1–3 p.m./Banneker—grades K–2

Tu, 10–11 a.m./Crestmont Boys and Girls Club—grades K–2 Tu, 1–2 p.m./Lincoln St. Boys and Girls Club—grades K–2 W, 9:30–10:30 a.m./Girls Inc.—grades K–2 and grades 3–5 W, 1–3 p.m. Banneker Community Center—grades 3–5 Thu, 10–11 a.m./Crestmont Boys and Girls Club—grades 3–5 Thu, 1–2 p.m./Lincoln St. Boys and Girls Club—grades 3–5 Thu, 3:30–4:30 p.m./ Ellettsville Boys and Girls Club—grades K–2 Thu, 4:30–5:30 p.m./ Ellettsville Boys and Girls Club—grades 3–5

Training: Volunteers are required to attend orientation and a curriculum training prior to the eight week session, and weekly program team

meetings during the eight week session.

Banneker Community Center, Crestmont Boys and Girls Club, Locations: Ellettsville Boys and Girls Club, Lincoln Street Boys and Girls

Club, and Girls Inc. 18 yrs. and up

Age of Volunteers: Number of Volunteers: 1–2 per site

Other: Volunteers must be available for the Monday training and a minimum of one site throughout the eight-week program.

Bloomington and Monroe County Adopt a Stream

June 2014-June 2015 Monthly Inspections One-year commitment

Adopt a Stream is an all-volunteer program that gives the public an opportunity to be actively involved in conserving and maintaining the natural wealth and beauty of streams that run through public park property owned by the City of Bloomington and Monroe County. Parks and Recreation staff provide training and equipment to volunteer individuals and groups of any size for monthly stream monitoring and annual stream maintenance. Inspect adopted stream at least once a month. Complete and submit

reports on stream condition. Provide general maintenance such as

removing debris and litter. Attend a Hoosier Riverwatch workshop and perform water quality monitoring at the stream at least four times per year. Schedule a minimum of one structured work day per year. Staff works with you or your group to formulate a work

Stream inspections can be completed at your leisure. **Program Time:**

Volunteers must submit an online application by May 11. An orientation takes place in late May. One-year appointment

starts in June. Various streams through public property are available for adoption

in Bloomington and Monroe County.

Age of Volunteers: 12 yrs. and up

Number of Volunteers: Recruitment class determined by number of vacant streams.

Summer Food and Fun at Banneker June 2-August 1

Help students retain math and reading skills this summer by volunteering to read with students and review basic school-age mathematics. Additionally, facilitate activities in art and science and engage children in active games and play. We ask that you commit to at least one hour a week.

Duties:

Program Time:

Location:

Whether you enjoy working with youth or have professional aspirations to, this service opportunity gives you hands-on experience. Work one-on-one with a student reinforcing math and reading skills and help staff members and community organizations facilitate academic enrichment activities focused on art, science and

3–4 hours weekly anytime between 10 a.m.–8:30 p.m. (Primary

need between 10 a.m.-3 p.m.) Location: Banneker Community Center, 930 W. Seventh St.

other subjects.

Age of Volunteers: 18 yrs. and up

Number of Volunteers: 4–6 per day, Monday–Friday

Adopt-a-Trail

July 2014-July 2015 Monthly inspections/ One-vear commitment

More than 30 trail miles in Bloomington's city parks need periodic inspections and maintenance to remain safe and usable. Volunteers have been valuable in establishing and maintaining our trails for many years. Parks and Recreation staff provide training and equipment to volunteer individuals and groups of any size for monthly trail monitoring and annual trail maintenance

Duties: Inspect adopted trail at least once a month. Complete and submit

reports on trail status. Provide maintenance as needed. Do at least one work day per year. Staff works with your group or

organization to formulate a work plan

Program Time: Trail inspections can be completed at your leisure. Schedule your trail work day with the Adopt-a-Trail coordinator. Timeline:

Volunteers must submit an online application by June 6. An orientation takes place in late June. One-year appointment

starts July 1.

Various trails are available for adoption. Location:

Age of Volunteers: 12 yrs. and up

Number of Volunteers: Recruitment class determined by number of vacant trails.

Future Stars Tuesdays and Thursdays, July 22-31 after conclusion of league play

Preparing for higher levels of play or trying out for a high school softball team can be a complicated time for players and parents. Future Stars is designed to get players and parents to slow down, take a breath and approach these situations with clarity, proper planning, and realistic expectations. Future Stars is a training program run by professionals, is completely player-focused, and designed specifically for the player.

Help players participating in the Bloomington Girls Softball program take their game to the next level. During this two-week program, lead skill-building drills, teach softball fundamentals, and help players gain a better understanding of the game. We ask

that you commit to both days 6-7:30 p.m.

Lower Cascades Park, 2851 N. Old State Rd. 37 Location Age of Volunteers: 18 yrs. and up

Number of Volunteers: 10

Program Time:

Leisure Companion

May-August

The Leisure Companion Program is a service in which participants with disabilities are partnered with a volunteer companion who provides additional support during participation in inclusive activities. The level of support will vary according to the specific needs of each individual.

Duties:

Duties:

Timeline:

Duties:

As a Leisure Companion, you facilitate inclusion by advocating for the participant, providing support during activities, protecting the dignity of the participant, emphasizing similarities of participants, creating an environment for success, encouraging independent participation, and most of all, being a supportive friend!

Program Time: Dates and times will vary according to program needs. Location: Location of events and programs vary depending on program

Age of Volunteers: 16 yrs. and up

Bloomington Youth Basketball Middle School

August 26-October 16

Middle school boys and girls (grades 7–8) play on separate teams in this league, which focuses on basketball skill development and applying skills in game situations. The season includes a weekly practice and two games, and concludes with a single-elimination tournament. Practice days and times are determined by the coach.

coaches per team)

Coach selection process completed by Friday, August 22. Selected coaches must attend mandatory coaches training on Tuesday, August 26, 6:30 p.m. at the Twin Lakes Recreation Center. Season runs September 2-October 11. Practices begin

All selected coaches must complete an online coaching certification course from the National Youth Sports Coaches Association (NYSCA) by first practice. The certification fee for each coach is \$25. The online training is available at nays.org. Scholarships are available to offset expenses associated with the online training. For scholarship information, contact Jeigh Hockersmith at 349-3774 or hockersj@bloomington.in.gov. Returning coaches have first priority for placement. Volunteers

Season II or III! **Program Time:**

Coaches plan and lead one, one-hour practice per week and two,

Number of Volunteers: 10

We are looking for coaches who can commit to once- or twiceweekly practices and one game per week or weekend. Volunteer coaches will enjoy making a difference in the lives of kids and can help develop our next big IU basketball star. (We suggest two

Prospective coaches must sign up by Friday, August 15.

the week of September 2. Games begin the week of September 15.

should agree to stay for the entire season. Also consider coaching

one-hour games per week.

Twin Lakes Recreation Center, 1700 W. Bloomfield Rd. Location: Age of Volunteers: 18 yrs. and up